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AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

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N. E. FARMER.

For the N. E. Farmer.

DIFFERENT ACTION OF CARBONATE AND SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.

Mr Editor—It is gratifying to witness the progress science is making towards agricultural improvements. The labors of scientific men will eventually place farming upon an almost entire new foundation. But scientific and chemical terms—the chemical metamorphoses of substances, and the endless variety of *sulphates, phosphates, acids, &c. &c.*, are rather puzzling to us old farmers, whose only education consisted of "reading, writing, and cyphering as far as the rule of three." But may we not hope the younger part of the farmers, and the rising generation, will turn their attention to the subjects of geology and chemistry, so that all the technical terms may be as well understood and as familiar to them as "household words."

I hardly possess a *smattering* of chemistry, but a few questions have arisen in my mind, which I submit to you, with the hope that I may receive some further light.

A correspondent ("J. E. T.") in the April No. of the New Genesee Farmer, has communicated to Mr Colman a statement from the January No. of the Gardener's Chronicle, (Eng.) edited by Lindley, on manuring wheat land with a new (artificial compounded) manure—*carbonate of ammonia*. "On this statement, Mr Lindley observes, that he does not see why sulphate of ammonia, which would be obtained by strewing the stables with gypsum, as mentioned in books, would not do as well."

J. E. T. says—"Now Mr Lindley is no chemist, and I differ from him in opinion, for the following reasons:—When a sulphate is decomposed in any other way than by the complete saturation of the sulphuric acid by another base, fumes of sulphuric acid or sulphuric acid gas are probably created, than which gas there is nothing more injurious to vegetation, even in the smallest quantity. This has been proved by various quite recent experiments." "I have lately tried *pure* sulphate of ammonia on Geraniums, which were nearly killed by it; but I do not offer this as conclusive against the sulphate formed by gypsum."

Now, Mr Editor, of the poisonous nature of sulphuric acid to plants there is no doubt—but gypsum is sulphate of lime, sulphuric acid and lime—but it is a good manure, especially on clover.

In the 40th No. of the N. E. Farmer, present volume, you give a recipe for making artificial guano, in which there is to be 100 lbs. sulphate of ammonia, and 10 lbs. sulphate of soda. I suppose the above is the proportion in which they exist in 530 lbs. of the guano, that is said to be first rate manure.

Liebig (page 250,) says—"When we bring sulphuric acid and nitrate of potash (saltpetre) together, nitric acid is separated, in consequence of the affinity of sulphuric acid for potash: in consequence, therefore, of a formation of a new compound, sulphate of potash." In the manufacture of pot or pearl ashes, after the lye has been boiling a few hours, by sinking an iron ladle in the boiling lye, it will soon be filled with a crystalized salt: this, no doubt, is sulphate of potash—as there is always much acid in the lye, unless a large quantity of lime is used. "Its taste is saline and bitter. This salt suffers no change on exposure to the air. The sulphate of potash is soluble in 16 times its weight of water, at 60 degrees." Without doubt, the insoluble part of pot or pearl-ash, known as "glass factory manure," is sulphate of potass;—this, according to the statement of Mr Deming Jarvis, is a powerful manure—(see page 252, present vol. N. E. Farmer.) Sulphate of iron is not good for corn, peas and beans—or in other words, I have found, after three years' trial, that land containing much sulphate of iron, was not good for these crops—it corroded the roots—the corn leaves assumed a red purplish color. At first I thought the worms cut the roots off; but after diligent search, the de'il a bit of a worm could I find. Now 't is said that lime strewed upon such land, will combine with the sulphuric acid and form gypsum. Ashes applied would form sulphate of potash. Now both of these are good manures—and I cannot perceive why sulphate of ammonia is not as good, or better.

I saturated several cwt. lbs. of ground plaster with urine: I suppose it is *now* sulphate of ammonia. I have inquired of a person fully competent, to direct me how to use it. He recommends to mix slaked lime, and then mix that with a large amount of peat or muck: the ammonia will be set free and combine with the muck—but will it be *carbonate* or *sulphate* of ammonia?—does the sulphuric acid leave the ammonia to unite with the lime, or the ammonia leave the sulphuric acid to unite with the lime? I fully understand how the same breath will *warm* my fingers and *cool* my broth—but I don't yet understand these chemical transformations. B.

April 10th, 1842.

☞A friend who is conversant with the facts of chemistry has kindly furnished us with the following reply:—

Agriculturists as well as scientific men, talk of the *action* of various manures on plants, when it is highly probable that as science advances, it will be found that the proper expression is, first, the *action* of plants (the living vegetable,) on the manures.

Lime, in any shape except caustic or burning, is good for clover; of course sulphate of lime is so. In sulphate of lime, the affinity is very strong between the lime and the sulphuric acid; so that the separation is effected artificially with the greatest difficulty; but a strong, luxuriant plant like clover, probably possesses living? powers sufficient to effect this decomposition, which other more delicate and less robust vegetables do not possess—the acids of sulphur in any shape, that is in gas or liquids, and in the smallest quantity, are injurious to vegetation, but where as in sulphate of lime, the decomposition is very difficult, and hence *very gradual*, the other alkalies in a soil will probably neutralize them as fast as they come into being; whereas in other sulphates, as in sulphate of ammonia, the decomposition is much more easily effected, consequently more rapid, and there is much danger of the free acids acting on the vegetable fibre of the roots, that is, if the decomposition is effected by the living action of the plant itself, and not by another alkali in the soil.

There is no doubt of the benefit of gypsum in some cases and with some plants; but the cases where it has proved utterly valueless, are infinitely more numerous.

With respect to other sulphates, clear testimony of their effects on vegetation is much wanted. Sulphate of ammonia in an extremely diluted state, has been tried by several experimenters, and always with injurious effects. Sulphate of iron is probably more injurious than any other sulphate—both ingredients of this salt being so separately—and if the decomposition of the sulphate of iron is effected by the other alkali in the soil, neutralizing the products of the sulphur, the oxide of iron will at all events injure the roots. I say, however, that more evidence even on the injurious effects of sulphate of iron is desirable, as Mr Schattenman has recently published a method of improving stable manure, in which he drenches his heap with a weak solution of this sulphate of iron, and as fast as this solution runs therefrom, he pours it on again.

The value of ammonia to vegetation has been clearly and distinctly proved: it only remains to discover in what form and quantity its application is most beneficial.

SILK CIRCULAR.

To Silk Growers in New England:

Gentlemen—At a Convention of Silk Growers, held in Northampton, on the 10th Nov. last, it was unanimously

Resolved, That, as during the infancy of the silk business, great practical benefits may be expected from periodical meetings of its friends, a committee be chosen to consist of one from each of the New England States, whose duty it shall be to call a Convention at such time and place as they may deem expedient, to be called "The New England Silk Convention."

Thereupon, I. R. Barbour, Oxford, Mass.; Dr. P. Brownell, East Hartford, Ct.; David Benedict, Esq., Pawtucket, R. I.; Dr. Artemas Robbins, Bellows Falls, Vt.; Calvin Messinger, Newport, N. H., and Luther Severance, Esq., Augusta, Me., were appointed as this committee.

In pursuance of the purposes contemplated above, the subscribers say, that they design to invite a meeting of Silk Growers at some central place, the early part of the ensuing autumn. In the meantime, it has occurred to them, that, by an early attention to the matter, a great amount of valuable information connected with the Silk culture, may be collected as the results of feeding the present season, and embodied in the form of a statistical table, to be laid before the convention and the public.

It is cheering to know that the results of the summer's operations have been generally decidedly encouraging; that the aggregate of the silk crop in Massachusetts, shows nearly a *three fold* advance upon any preceding year; that this is probably about the ratio of increase in the other States of New England and throughout the country; that public confidence, after the late revulsion, is returning to the business, and that the silk culture is extending itself as rapidly as correct information respecting it is diffused—thus giving promise that it will soon become fully established.

To secure this important object, all that is wanted by our intelligent and enterprising men, is *facts, facts*—well-attested *facts*. The results of feeding in 1841, could they now be all collected and embodied so as to give a *tabular view* of the whole matter, would, it is fully believed, at once satisfy any business man, in regard to the *entire feasibility* of the silk enterprise, and that its profits, when rightly conducted, are greater than in other branches of ordinary farming. Let us then be prepared to give the public these facts, next autumn, in such a form as to command the confidence of business men. Do we not owe this small service to ourselves, to our country, and to the unborn millions that are in future times to be clothed and fed and educated from the fruits of this interesting form of agricultural industry?

For this purpose it is only necessary for each one engaged in the business, whether he does much or little, to keep such records as will enable him to answer the following questions:

1. How many seasons have you fed worms?
2. What quantity of land have you fed from the past season?
3. How old are your trees? (If they are of different ages, give the average.)
4. How many pounds of cocoons have you made, weighed as they are gathered?
5. What has been the expense of making the cocoons here reported?

These questions can all be answered in *figures*. For a rule of estimating expenses, see below. In addition to these questions, there are a few others which we suggest:

1. What kind of trees do you use?
2. Have your trees been essentially injured by standing out winters?
3. Do you *head down* your trees in the spring?
4. In gathering foliage, do you cut up the bushes?
5. What kind of buildings do you feed in? and how well ventilated?
6. Do you give your worms any artificial heat?
7. Have you ever fed in an *open* place, like a shed or corn barn, where the worms had a perfectly pure air? If so, state the results very particularly.
8. Do you use air-slacked lime upon your worms?
9. Have you failed in any part of your operations the past season? If so, state the cause and circumstances.

These points will be all that is essential to the purposes designed, though we shall be thankful for any remarks or facts bearing on the general subject. To give expenses by some uniform rule, we suggest the following simple method. Make a little book, in which, at the close of each day, to enter the number of hours employed by men, women and children. Then consider the labor of able-bodied men at 10 cents per hour; women at 6 cents; boys and girls between 15 and 17, at 5 cents; between 12 and 15, at 3 cents; and under 12, at 2 cents.

The expense of planting trees, we wish to be given by *itself*, as that is not an annual expense. Give us also the fair rent of the buildings used, and we have all that is wanted.

That we may have time to prepare the contemplated table in season for the convention, we wish to have the returns all sent in by the 15th of September. To every person furnishing a return, free of expense, a copy of the table will be sent. Direct to I. R. Barbour, Oxford, Mass., *post paid*.

I. R. BARBOUR,
P. BROWNELL,
ARTEMAS ROBBINS,
CALVIN MESSINGER,
LUTHER SEVERANCE,
DAVID BENEDICT,

March 24, 1842. *Committee.*

P. S. The committee design to send this circular to every silk grower in New England. But many of course will be overlooked, because unknown to them. Will you, therefore, show this to all in your neighborhood, and get as many returns as possible. In Massachusetts there cannot be less than 500 cocooneries of some sort. In New England probably not less than 2000. From all these establishments we would hope for full returns, in due time, and free of expense. All silk growers are equally interested in the object aimed at, and the committee, as such, have no funds.

FARMERS, MAGNIFY YOUR CALLING.

I wish I could see in all our farmers a disposition to magnify their calling; but I have been grieved in many a farm-house, to listen to lamentations over what they term their "hard lot." I have heard the residents upon a noble farm, all paid for, talk about drudgery, and never having their work done, and few or no opportunities for the children; and I have especially been sorry to hear the females lament over the hard fate of some promising youth of seventeen or eighteen, who was admirably filling up his duties, and training himself for extensive usefulness and influence. They have made comparison between his situation, coarsely clad and working hard, and coming in fatigued, with some cousin at college, or young man who *clerked* it in a city store, till at length the boy has become dissatisfied, and begged off from his true interests and happiness. I am conversant with no truer scenes of enjoyment than I have witnessed in American farm-houses, and even log cabins, where the father, under the influence of enlightened Christianity and sound views of life, has gone with his family, as the world have termed it, into the woods. The land is his own, and he has every inducement to improve it; he finds a healthy employment for himself and family, and is never at a loss for materials to occupy his mind. I do not think the physician has more occasion for research than the farmer; the proper food of vegetables and animals will alone constitute a wide and lasting field of investigation. The daily journal of a farmer is a source of much interest to himself and others. The record of his labors, the expression of his hopes, the nature of his fears, the opinions of his neighbors, the results of his experiments, the entire sum total of his operations, will prove a deep source of pleasure to any thinking man. If the establishment of agricultural societies, and the cattle shows of our country should have the effect of stimulating one farmer in every town to manage his land and stock upon the best principles of husbandry, there would be a wonderful and speedy alteration in the products of the earth, because comparison would force itself upon his friends and neighbors; and his example would be certainly beneficial, for prejudice itself will give way to profit.—*Chowles' Oration before the American Institute.*

FRUIT TREES—THEIR DISEASES AND INSECT ENEMIES.

We extract the following from the "Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society," communicated by David Thomas, Esq.:

The Pear Tree.—"Neither the borer nor the caterpillar attack the Pear tree; but sometimes flies, wasps, and hornets are busy among the leaves, showing that all is not right, and that honey dew emitted by plant lice, attracts them. But this tree is subject to a more serious injury, to wit: the *fire blight*, which occurs early in summer, the leaves from the extremity of the branches for two or more feet, appearing as if they were *scorched*. We think, however, that two distinct causes occasionally operate to produce similar effects, namely: insects, and a starting of the bark in winter.

The late Professor Peck, on examining the branch of a pear tree which had died with fire blight, said the damage was caused by an insect, *(Scolytus pyri,)* and that to cut off the limbs a foot or more below the dead part, and *immediately burn them*, would be the proper remedy. We have faithfully followed this advice; and though the fire blight has been several times in the fruit garden, its ravages have always been arrested at once, so that we have not lost a tree from this cause in twenty years. We have believed that the new colonies went with us when we carried off and destroyed the branches.

The starting of the bark in winter, appears to be caused by an untimely flowing of the sap, followed by intense cold, which expands it into ice, and separates the bark from the wood. We have observed such effects once or twice, succeeded on some of the smaller branches, by a blighting of the leaves, but we believe it seldom occurs in this district (Cayuga county.)

The Plum Tree.—"The Plum tree is sometimes, though rarely, attacked by the *peach worm* in western New York. Its most formidable enemy however, is the insect that causes the "*black gum*," similar in its effects to the insect that destroys the morello, if they are not identical. Be this as it may, it is rapidly increasing; and unless our farmers shall turn over a new leaf, the plum will soon become very rare amongst us. In every direction that we travel, branches are loaded with these excresences; and if there is one man within fifty miles of us who has done his duty, we should be pleased to hear it.

To guard against this insect, the trees should be well pruned, though not enough to check their vigor, so that the *bunches* may be readily discovered. Unless this precaution be taken, it would be very difficult to find all of them, without spending more time than people in general have to spare. Let there be no delay in cutting off and burning them when they are found."

Agriculture, like the leader of Israel, strikes the rock—the waters flow, and the famished people are satisfied—she supplies, she feeds, she quickens all.

For the N. E. Farmer.

SPARE THE BIRDS.

MR ALLEN PUTNAM—Dear Sir—I noticed with much pleasure several communications in your paper the last senson, relative to the protection of birds. It is quite time that this subject should receive more attention, although the laws of this State for the protection of game and other birds, are sufficiently ample, provided it was *any one's duty* to attend to the enforcement of them. A few prosecutions would soon put a stop to the wholesale destruction of birds at this season of the year. From a careful estimate I should think that the sale of birds and game in this market amounted to about $15,000 yearly; but during the last season, it has fallen off materially.

I believe that it is not known generally that there is a fine of $2 for every marsh bird killed or exposed for sale between the months of March and September. The two or three last years, in the month of May, (at which time the birds stop a few weeks on their way to their breeding places in the North,) there have been more red-breasts, plovers and other marsh birds sold in the Quincy market in one week than there have been *shot* during the whole fall season: the consequence is, that they are nearly exterminated, and in a few years will be entirely so. The same will apply to the woodcock, and other game birds, that were formerly shot in this vicinity:—these birds are not only shot at the time that they make their appearance in the spring, but through all the hatching season, as they come off their nests and before the young are fully fledged; at which time they are easily killed; and by the fourth of July, up to which time the law allows them for breeding, (which is too short,) there are not any left for the sportsmen and others who do not wish to violate the law.

In the month of May last year, there were shot in one day in the vicinity of Malden, fifty dozen peeps, and they were sold in the market at 25 cts. the dozen. Now, the dealers in the market would hardly dare to expose them for sale, if they thought there was a chance of their being prosecuted. At Barnstable, (where most of these birds come from in the spring,) the marshes are entirely deserted by them in the fall;—so much so, that the sportsmen and others who generally resort to them in the fall, to recruit their health after a summer's work in town, did not the last year kill enough to eat:—(five years since a hundred birds a day was a fair allowance.) If no one else will attend to the prosecution of these poachers, I hope the sportsmen will—and follow the good example of Dr. Fisher, of Edgartown, who rode one night last winter, thirty miles, after dark, to catch and convict the poachers who went to the Vineyard to shoot grouse for some of the eating houses in this city. Their names are generally known: I shall not repeat them, as I have heard that they are so ashamed of their being caught poaching, that they will not poach again in a hurry. That prosecution no doubt saved the lives of more than one thousand grouse the last winter.

Yours, SNIPE.

☞The days of miracles seem not to be past. In days of yore, the ass spoke to Balaam; and now a "Snipe" sends us a communication. We are probably less disturbed by the wonder than was the rider of the beast in ancient writ; for we are not conscience-smitten at the words of the bird. We hope, however, that some whose eyes may see these lines, will hear the voice of conscience reproaching them for their sins. Let us alone, say the birds—let the birds live, says the law—let them live, says humanity—let them live, says a *better taste* than the Epicurean appetite of the glutton. Yes, sportsmen, fancy that the voice of "Snipe" is the voice of Him who made the birds, and cease from your deadly work.—ED.

For the N. E. Farmer.

CHURNING MILK.

MR EDITOR—I am purposing to do what little I can to furnish you "Boston folks" with the good things of this life, and it will consist principally in what I have long been in the practice of sending you; and what those who have used it have been pleased to call *good butter*. And as some of you have made up your minds that there is a considerable difference in the value of the two kinds of butter, one of which, when put on bread, makes it decidedly less palatable, and the other makes it something considerably better, I have by careful observation, been able to make some improvement in my dairy almost every year since I began to think that there could be any improvements made; and I wish to make a little advance this year in the art of making good butter, and I presume that you will be very willing to assist me or any others, if you can, by communicating to us through your paper, any information you may have on the subject. I contemplate keeping a considerable number of cows this season, and as I have a horse-power, I intend to churn my *milk*—believing that it will be more sure to make good butter by having the milk churned when it is perfectly sweet. In warm weather, the milk frequently sours before the cream has had time to rise, and destroys the fine flavor of the butter. Churning *milk* is practiced in many parts of the country, but I have not been able to learn what I wish to know on the subject, and which I now ask you to give me.

And first—How long ought the milk to stand before it is churned? Will it do to churn it as soon as it is cool enough—or does it need to stand till the cream has principally separated from the milk?

Second—Must the milk be put in pans, or may it be put in larger vessels, and put into an ice cellar, well, or some other cool place, and stand till it has sufficient age, without giving the cream an opportunity to rise?

Third—What kind of churn is best—a dash churn, to be worked by horse-power—a barrel churn, one that stands still and has floats that turn in it—or some other kind?

Fourth—Can the buttermilk be made into cheese to good advantage, or is it as good as skimmed milk that has not been churned?

If you or some of the readers of the Farmer will answer these questions, you will much oblige your friend the butter maker, residing on the "old temperance farm."

SAM'L CHAMBERLAIN.

Westboro', April 25, 1842.

☞We hope that our correspondents who are accustomed to churn *milk*, will answer the inquiries of Mr Chamberlain. It is not usual in this vicinity to make butter in the way concerning which Mr C. inquires, and we have no experience to guide us in a reply to his questions. We are glad to learn that one who has been so successful in making good butter, is yet desirous to make some that shall be better than his own best.—ED.

From the Farmer's Gazette.

REARING CALVES.

MR EDITOR—As the time for rearing calves is approaching, I wish to invite the attention of the farmers to this important branch of husbandry.

And first; raise none but good ones. By this I do not mean that a calf must be a Durham, a Devon, or any other selected breed, in order to be worth raising. But how shall I determine, one inquires, when a calf a week old is worth raising? I will tell you. If he has a good loin, a full thigh, and is cut up well under the throat, you need not fear. And then commence your feed no higher than you can ever after maintain it with profit. Some, when they wish to make an extra fine animal, give the calf the use of a good cow through the summer. This, in my opinion, is a very mistaken policy. To say nothing of the expense beyond the return of profit, I consider it highly detrimental to the animal itself, in producing fine qualities, by causing a too rapid growth of bone for the muscle; so that when the animal becomes settled, you will find a too extended proportion of bone, producing coarse qualities. And the mischief stops not here. If the calf is intended for a breeding animal, you will find it highly injurious to his stock. This you may discover in their long joints, coarse long hair and large consuming. It has been repeatedly tested, that calves raised on skimmed milk, hay tea, &c., at two and three years old, will quite out-do those raised by the cow and put upon the same keep afterwards. It requires no argument to prove that it will not do for farmers to incur an expense that produces no adequate return.

BENONI.

Woodbury, (Conn.,) April 1*st*, 1842.

MANURE FOR GARDENS.

We have tried a variety of kinds for a garden, and these in a variety of forms, and so far as our experience warrants an assertion in favor of any particular kind, we must give a decided preference to *swamp mud*, or *muck*. One argument in its favor is, that it seldom produces weeds. Another, that it contains so much vegetable matter in a decomposible state, that is easily brought to operate as the food of plants. It also, from the slowness of its decay, continues its effect longer than most other manures. Its cheapness also commends it, for all its cost is the mere getting of it from the pond hole, which will be sure to fill its treasury before a new draft is necessary. In order to have it prime, it should be placed in a pile for a few days, and ashes or lime mixed with it, and subjected to workings until the lumps are all reduced, and the two simples thoroughly compounded. It may then be put, (half a shovelful will answer,) in the hill for melons, cucumbers, and squashes. For radishes and the like, we use it as a top-dressing. —*Genesee Farmer.*

If there is any man who may eat his bread at peace with man and God, it is the man who has brought that bread out of the earth by his own honest industry:—it is cankered by no fraud, it is wet with no tears, it is stained with no blood.—*Colman.*

From Colman's Fourth Report.

RECLAIMING OF PEAT LANDS BY E. PHINNEY, ESQ., ABEL MOORE, AND OTHERS.

Mr Phinney's Statement.

"I consider my peat grounds by far the most valuable part of my farm. They are more valuable than my wood lots for fuel, more than double the value of an equal number of acres of upland for the purposes of cultivation, and in addition to these, they furnish an inexhaustible supply of the most essential ingredient for the compost heap. Some years since, I occasionally sold to my neighbors a few rods of my peat land, annually, to be cut out for fuel, at $3 per rod square, being at the rate of $480 per acre, but finding this sum to be less than its value for cultivation, especially when laid to grass, I have declined making further sales at that price. I have raised upon my reclaimed meadows, 75 bushels corn, 500 bushels potatoes, and from 4 to 5 tons of the best hay, at the first and second cutting, to the acre, at a less expense of labor and manure than would be required to produce half this crop upon my uplands.

"To render these lands productive, they should be thoroughly drained, by cutting a ditch around the margin of the meadow, so as to cut off the springs and receive the water that is continually flowing in from the surrounding uplands. If the meadow be wide, a ditch through the centre may be necessary, but this will be of no use without the border ditches. This being thoroughly done, and the surplus water all drawn off, the next step is to exterminate the wild grasses and herbage of every kind that grow upon the surface. To effect this, the method heretofore, and now by some pursued, is to cover with sand or gravel from three to six inches deep, top-dress with manure, sow the grass seed, and rake or bush it over. This, for the first year or two, will give a good crop of hay. But after this, I have invariably found that the more hardy and coarse kinds of wild grass would work their way through the sand and gravel, and completely supplant the cultivated grasses, when the whole must have another covering and another top-dressing, or be abandoned as worthless. If to be planted with corn or any of the root crops, my course has been to turn over the turf or sward, with a plow having a wrought iron share and coulter, both ground to a sharp edge, in the driest season, say in the month of September, roll down as hard as possible, carry on the following winter a sufficient top-dressing of compost, about 20 cartloads to the acre, and in the spring spread the same, and plant with corn or roots, without disturbing the sod. When the corn or root crop is taken off, the surface is made smooth with the cultivator or hoe and harrow, and late in November, or just before the severe frosts set in, sow with herdsgrass and red-top seed, half a bushel of the former and a bushel of the latter, to the acre; the field is then rolled, which completes the process. If the plow does not turn the sward entirely over, it will be necessary to follow with the bog-hoe, to level the uneven places. By keeping the sod undisturbed during the cultivation, a more firm and compact surface is formed, upon which oxen or horses may walk, generally without danger of miring. If the ground be intended for grass without the intervention of a hoed crop, the turf is turned over as before stated, in August or September, or as early in the season as the surface becomes dry enough to admit the oxen or horses upon it, then follow with the hoe and roller, and make such parts smooth as may be left uneven by the plow, and late in November, cart and spread on not less than twenty cartloads of compost to the acre, made of equal parts of loam or vegetable mould and stable dung, then sow the grass seed, and bush and roll down.

"If after all requisite draining, the land still remains so wet and miry as to render the use of the plow impracticable, the bog-hoe must be resorted to, and the whole turned over by hand, the top-dressing carried on in the winter, and the grass seed sowed in the spring; and if done before the frost is all out, it may be bushed and rolled down, otherwise it must be raked in by hand. The cost of turning over with the hoe, will not exceed $20 per acre, at the usual prices of labor.

"This mode of culture completely subdues the natural grasses and wild herbage, and gives a compact, rich surface of vegetable mould, which will give an abundance of crop of the best hay for four or five years, without the aid of more manure. If the sod be disturbed and attempted to be pulverized in the course of the cultivation, the surface when laid to grass will be loose and spongy, an extra top-dressing of compost will be required, and after all, the surface will never become so compact, nor the produce by any means so great.

"Should meadows be found too soft and miry to admit of being plowed in the summer or autumn, and the expense of turning with the hoe be thought too great, I would recommend plowing in the spring, when the frost is out to the depth of three or four inches, carting on the manure and then sowing or planting at a convenient and proper season.

"The most important parts of the business in reclaiming these meadows, consist in taking off all the surplus water by judicious draining, and in thoroughly exterminating the natural herbage and grass. This being effected, we have our rich bottoms equally as productive as the deep alluvions of the west, and obtained at a cost and sacrifice very much less.

"In answer to your inquiry whether I have turned over green sward and sowed it directly down to grass without manuring, I reply that I have not: my course has been to top-dress the inverted sward with compost. With reference to the ultimate improvement of the soil, I plow deep, which brings to the surface a considerable portion of the poor subsoil, requiring to be mixed with manure to render it productive. That land may be greatly benefited by turning over the green sward after the crop of hay is taken off, and immediately sowed to grass without manure, I have no question; but for present profit, as well as with a view to future improvement, it may be well to dress with manure. My best crops of grass are, however, from fields which have been planted, the season of turning over the green sward, with corn or roots, and sowing to grass the next spring without disturbing the inverted sward. I have found that when grass seed is sowed upon the sward without cultivating it for one season, the poorer kinds of natural grasses spring up between the furrow slices, and in the course of a year or two, entirely supplant the better kinds of cultivated grasses. This is a great object with farmers who raise hay for the market. The quantity grown upon an acre, without putting on a hoed crop for the first season after turning over, may be quite as great, but of inferior quality."

The next account which I shall give is that of Abel Moore, of Concord, Middlesex county, whose improvements have been remarkable and in the highest degree productive. The land, which has thus been renovated, before his improvements, though almost in the centre of the beautiful village of Concord, would scarcely have brought a rent of 25 cents to the acre. Those who would see what magic power there is in skillful cultivation, would find a high gratification in comparing a part of this meadow which now remains in its original state. with that which, I had almost said, Mr Moore has raised from the dead and adorned with life and beauty. The mode in which Mr Moore forms his ditches, by making them so wide at the top that the slope to the bottom is so gradual that they may be crossed in the summer season with a team without a bridge, deserves particular attention. Here is no heaving of frosts and caving in of banks, or undermining of the edges of the ditch; and the slope of the bank is so easy that grass may be grown and mowed to the very bottom.

Mr Moore's Statement.

"In the winter of 1826 I began to cut off the brush from about 20 acres of my farm, lying between the old county road and the turnpike leading from Concord to Boston. In the summer of 1827, I commenced ditching this meadow land by cutting ditches through the same about 4 feet wide, and from 3 to 4 feet deep. In the fall of the same year, I commenced gravelling about two acres of the same land by carting on about 500 loads of sandy loam to the acre. In the spring of 1828 I sowed these two acres down with oats and grass seed, and had a large crop of oats. I have ever since had a large crop of grass twice every year, without any depreciation. On about one half of this land, I have never put any manure since it was first sowed down, but it has the wash of the road, which does it considerable good. I have continued reclaiming more or less of this land every year since, and have already finished about 32 acres. I am doing more at this time, and shall continue to reclaim this land until I get the greater part of it done.

"You ask me if I have ever pared and burnt the land. Answer, I have not: but I have a paring machine which I have run through both ways so as to cut it in junks about five inches deep. I have then turned it over, rolled it down, added sandy loam and compost, and sowed it down with oats and grass seed. This I did two years ago last spring, and had the best crop of oats I ever raised, and I have had since as large crops of grass on this as on any other land. I have plowed four or five acres of the land since I fixed it, and have raised the first year large crops of potatoes, and then laid it down the next spring with oats, wheat, and grass seed. In every instance I have not failed of having a large crop.

"You ask me how often it requires top-dressing. Answer: About once in two or three years. I always put on the dressing in the fall, if convenient. I spread it, then harrow it well, and roll it down.

"You ask me if I have measured any of my meadow land and weighed the hay. Answer: I caused a small square piece between two ditches to be measured. It contained 84 rods. The grass was well dried in two days of as good hay weather as we had last year, and weighed 38 hundred and 5 lbs. I cut a good second crop on the same, which I did not weigh.

"I have never kept any particular account of

what it costs me to redeem my meadow. But I am sure the two first crops have amply repaid all expense for the whole labor.

"In ditching my meadow of late, I have left no raised banks, but have levelled it back, so as to have grass to the very edge of the bank, and to prevent the banks from caving in."

My next account is from Amos Bancroft, M. D., at Groton, whose method will be found to be in some respects different from that pursued by others. The appearance of his mowing fields and the amount of his potato crops, certainly speak well for his husbandry.

Dr. Bancroft's Statement.

"I will give you a concise account of my method of reclaiming the peat meadows. I have tried plowing, paring, and planting with potatoes. I think plowing in the beginning does not answer. I first drain the ground by ditching, if it requires it. Then I bog and cut off the hassocks, stack them and burn them on the ground or remove them to the upland Part of our peat meadow has no hassocks or bogs. My practice has been to plant before breaking the surface. I place a shovelful of manure and earth, or any good compost, in hills on the ground, about three feet apart for my potatoes, and in dressing them with bog hoes, cover them from the surface sods and make potato hills of a suitable size; they require but little more attention until they are dug. After this, if the surface is sufficiently rotten or pulverized, I give it a dressing and sow with timothy and redtop; if not, I plow and plant another year. The more gravel or loam I carry on, the better. The first crop of potatoes, I think, pays for the labor. After it is sown down, it will require to be plowed or dressed every three or four years. My meadow gives me two tons of hay to the acre. Where the ground is too wet to be plowed, I cart on gravel and manure, and repeat every three or four years. Potatoes and hay are the only crops I have succeeded in bringing to profit. Oats will grow rank, but are liable to be blasted and fall down. Wheat and rye, I think, will do no better; but I have experimented on a very small scale on the two latter. Lime, plaster, and ashes I have never tried. The reason I plow my ground on the meadow, instead of letting it lie and dressing it every few years, is because I raise my potatoes on it easier than on the upland. I think, likewise the process of plowing and harrowing improves the soil by pulverizing and warming the surface. The annual quantity of potatoes raised on the meadow is from three to five hundred bushels."

Another farmer in Groton, Rufus Morrs, whose farming is excellent, has effected great improvements in the reclamation of peat meadows. His premises indicate indefatigable industry directed by great skill and judgment.

He disapproves, he says, from long experience, the application of gravel to these lands. He 'bogs' the meadow with a hoe, that is, turns over all the sods; carries on a compost of loam and manure mixed, plants potatoes, or lays it down with oats to be cut green, or sows it in the fall without any grain. He has sometimes taken up a piece in the autumn; repeatedly harrowed it until it was reduced to a fine state; manured it; then sowed grass seed at the rate of half a bushel of herdsgrass and a quantity of red-top, but no clover, and the next season has taken a large burden of grass from this land.

I have found nowhere on a small scale, more skillful improvements executed than on the farm of Mark Fay, in Marlboro'. He made various attempts, of which he gives the subjoined account. From 1829 until 1836, he states that he tried various ways, until he adopted the plan of turfing, and burning the turf in heaps and spreading the ashes. He then in June seeded the ground with grass seed, and at the same time sowed oats, which he cut in August for fodder, and as nearly as he could judge, he had about two tons to the acre. The next season he had a crop of herdsgrass and clover. He mowed the ground twice, and obtained by estimation, four tons to the acre. In September, 1837, he turfed and burnt about one fourth of an acre, and sowed winter rye. In June, the ensuing season, he cut about two rods of the straw for braiding straw, which proved very good. He reaped the remainder, which yielded five bushels of good rye. In August, 1838, he turfed about one acre, and let the turf lay about a week turned bottom up and then set fire to it as it lay. It burnt very well. He thinks this better than to burn it in heaps, as it leaves the ground more even, and saves the labor of collecting the turf. The expense of turfing, burning, and seeding this acre, was about 12 dollars, whereas his first experiment cost him more than 50 dollars per acre. In the second year, he gives the ground a top-dressing with compost manure, and continues this yearly. His first movement is to ditch the ground thoroughly, and so to drain that the water in the ditches certainly may not stand within eighteen inches of the surface, and he finds it necessary to cut a ditch near the hard land, the margin of the meadow, so as to intercept the cold springs. He usually plants the banks of the ditches two or three years with potatoes; and after this part of the ground gets well warmed and rotted, he spreads it on the grass for a top-dressing.

From the same.

ORCHARDS.

There are many orchards in Middlesex, of large extent and in excellent condition. Two were some time since the subjects of premium from the Massachusetts Agricultural Society. The one belonging to Nahum Hardy, of Waltham, who reclaimed eight acres of land from a wild and rude state, and planted it with 500 apple trees, all engrafted fruit; the other, of E. Phinney, of Lexington, who brought a rough piece of land into a suitable condition and planted it with 400 trees. Both these farmers have extended their cultivation since that time, and the admirable condition of their trees evinces the skill and care of their management. The product of the orchard of the latter, makes a large item in the returns of his farm. He has more than a thousand trees in bearing.

Mr Phinney saved some of his trees a few years since by a process which is worth recording. They had been completely girdled near the ground in the winter by the mice, who had eaten the bark round to a width of two or three inches or more. By cutting scions and inserting the ends of several of them in the spring round the tree, under the bark, above and below the injury, so as to form a communication for the sap, the injured parts have begun to grow together, the whole wound may ultimately be covered, and the tree live and flourish. To most persons after the injury, their situation would have seemed desperate. Mr Phinney avoids planting his trees deep; but cultivates them as near the surface as he can, and at the same time sufficiently to cover the roots.

John Welles, whose farm is in Natick, in this county, and than whom few men among us have given more attention to the subject of fruit and forest trees, considers the ordinary life of apple trees about sixty years; but it would be desirable to replace them soon after their decline commences. The situation most favorable to an orchard is a sheltered situation with a moist soil. He succeeded in producing a valuable growth of trees on a light and unfriendly soil, by making a hole for planting four feet square; after removing about a foot of the top-soil, which was to be returned round the tree, taking out the hard pan at bottom to a sufficient depth to deposit it in a load of stones, and then sprinkling some mould on the stones and planting his tree. The stones served to preserve moisture for the roots and gave likewise in their interstices room for the roots to extend themselves. No farmer need complain that his land is not suitable for an orchard; because he may make it suitable, at an expense which the fruit of the tree after it comes in bearing will soon compensate.

James Cutter, of Weston, has been remarkably successful in transplanting trees of more than ordinary size. He has removed pear trees of 8 and 10 inches in diameter. His practice is to clean the dirt entirely from the roots of the tree; to cut off all the roots, at a distance of four or five feet from the tree, and to put no manure in the hole.

I. M. Gourgas, of Weston, a farmer of much experience and intelligence, disapproves of applying white-wash or any caustic wash to the trees; but he has found great advantage in the application of ashes to them at the roots. To my inquiries of one of the best farmers in the county, whose trees were in the most healthy and perfect condition possible, what wash he applied to the bark, he answered the only wash he applied was to the roots; that is, he kept the trees themselves enriched and cultivated in as careful a manner as he would if they had been the most delicate and valued exotics.

Necessity of Light to Vegetation.—Although philosophers are not agreed as to the peculiar action which light exerts upon vegetation, and there is even some doubt respecting the decomposition of air and water, during that process, one thing is undeniable—the necessity of light to the growth and health of plants; for without it, they have neither color, taste, or smell; and, accordingly they are for the most part so formed as to receive it at all times when it shines upon them; their cups and the little assemblages of their leaves before they sprout, are found to be more or less affected by the light, so as to open and receive it. In several kinds of plants this is more evident than in others; their flowers close at night and open in the day. Some constantly turned round towards the light, following the sun as it were, while he makes or seems to make his revolution, so that they receive the greatest quantity possible of his rays—thus, clover in a field follows the apparent course of the sun. But all leaves of plants turn towards the sun, place them how you will, light being essential to their well-being.—*Brougham.*

No man ever lost any thing by being honest.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1842.

LIEBIG'S AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

A distinguished Professor in Germany, in discussing with the author of the above named work, the question of the use of alkalies to plants, and in particular the necessity of potash for the growth of wheat, mentioned, as unfavorable to that view, the fact that fine crops of wheat were obtained from a purely calcareous soil, lying over limestone, in Hanover. "Then," answered Prof. Liebig, "you may rely upon it that the limestone contains potash." His friend took an early opportunity to investigate the matter, and found, to his surprise, that the limestone in question did contain a very notable proportion of potash, a fact previously unknown. He found potash also in other fertile limestones, and in every specimen of clay he examined; even in the purest pipe clay. We doubt not, therefore, that potash will be found in some form in every soil in which wheat thrives.

The foregoing is from an article on Liebig's work in the London Quarterly Review for March, and the writer observes that he can vouch for its truth, having heard the anecdote attested by the parties themselves.

We learn that a third edition of this work is in the press, and will contain many alterations and valuable additions from the author. Prof. Liebig has been for some time engaged in preparing a work on Animal Chemistry, which, so far as received, is also republishing, under the supervision of Prof. Webster, of Cambridge. Though we are not ready to adopt the views of Liebig on several points, we deem his productions valuable, and worthy the attention of all *thinking* agriculturists.

SEED CORN—ITS PREPARATION, &c.

In all cases use good seed if it can possibly be obtained. Take only such ears as have a cob free from mould, and as are dried without heating. The custom of most good farmers excludes an inch or more at each end of the ear, and takes the middle only for seed. When one can plant early, say before the middle of May, there is no benefit derived from soaking the seed in water alone; but some affirm that soaking in nitrate of potash—that is, saltpetre—has a favorable effect upon the growth of the plant, and also in preventing the ravages of worms. We have no experience with this article. We plant without soaking.

We deem it good economy to plant 50 per cent more kernels of corn than you wish to have stalks upon the ground. This will allow you to pull up all the puny and unpromising stalks, and yet have left a full supply of such as are vigorous and healthy.

MAMMOTH COW.

There is to be seen in Court street, near the Court House, a cow of very extraordinary size. She was raised by Mr Benjamin Hills, of Surry, N. H. Will be six years old in June next. Though she has never had a calf, she gives 7 or 8 quarts of milk per day. It is only about three weeks since she was purchased of Mr Hills, and at that time her weight was *three thousand pounds*. It is supposed that in making the journey down from New Hampshire, she has lost something in weight. Her present owners say that her sire was a Durham Short-Horn, and her dam a native. The color is a dark red or brown—(our eyes are not very good at distinguishing colors.) The form is fair, with only one or two slight defects. The height is about 5 feet, and the length 9 feet. The lovers of mammoth animals will take pleasure in looking at her.

A huge Hog, about two and a half years old, a cross of the Berkshire and the Grass breed, is to be seen in the pen adjoining that of the cow. He is said to weigh 1400 lbs. Not remarkable for any thing but size. He is a production of Pennsylvania.

MR CLARK'S ARTICLE ON THE RENOVATION OF EXHAUSTED SOILS.

MR PUTNAM—I have read with much interest the article in your paper on the Renovation of Exhausted Soils. Mr Clark has clear views of the subject on which he writes, and expresses them so clearly that it is impossible to fail of comprehending them. He certainly places a high, if not extravagant, estimate on the services rendered and to be rendered to agriculture by geologists and chemists; which, perhaps, may account for his fling at "State parsimony," in not putting a chemist in the field to develope the fertilizing properties of peat bog or muck. It seems rather hard that the Commonwealth, after all she has done in the way of geological and agricultural surveys, should not have some credit conceded to her. She ought surely to be allowed to take breath, and to look about a little to witness the practical results of her labors, before goading her in the sides for not going ahead still faster. A good team should not be driven too freely.

Besides, it is but fair and proper that the chemists themselves should be more united upon the question, what constitutes the essential food of plants, before the State sets them at work to ascertain whether the food exists in this meadow or that bog. If Liebig's theory be true, that the principal nourishment of plants is derived from the atmosphere, then all this analysis of muck, in search of the *elixer vitae* of plants, is so much labor lost. Let the chemists first settle it among themselves whether air, earth, or water, contains the essential aliment of vegetation, and then the State may, with more propriety be called upon to put a chemist in the field.

To some of the doctrines and statements advanced in Mr Clark's communication, I cannot as yet subscribe. On the use of the roller, he says, that by its compressing the surface of the earth, the air is in some measure excluded, and moisture is better retained—it provides against excessive action and evaporation, by closing the pores or interstices in such measure as to hold in partial duress the matter beneath. Now if this theory be correct, and the practice under it favorable to good cultivation, then it follows that all stirring of the earth about plants, in dry weather, either with the hoe, harrow, or cultivator, is not only useless, but injurious; and that the top crust, formed by the rains and the sun, should not be broken or disturbed. But experience teaches a very different lesson, and therefore this theory as to the use of the roller, cannot be correct.

Again, he remarks that "the effect of compressing the surface of light land, as seen in the grass award that follows the winding of a seldom used path over an old field, can hardly have escaped the notice of any one, presenting as it frequently does, a verdant stripe amid a lifeless waste." I admit the fact, but not the cause of it; for it may be, as it seems to me, more reasonably accounted for by the droppings of manure from the animals and vehicles that pass over the road, than from any compression given to it by hoofs or tires. Would the same effect follow the track of a locomotive steam engine?

Whilst I would by no means discard the roller in laying down a field—for I believe it renders great service in compressing the earth about small seed;—still, I cannot go so far as the intelligent and experienced agriculturist of Northampton, in ascribing to it virtues to which it is not fairly entitled. Perhaps, however, his views and facts may be correct, and, as we live to learn—especially in matters pertaining to agriculture—I may hereafter be the wiser for having obtained a knowledge of them. Very respectfully,

ALLEN W. DODGE.

Hamilton, April 23d, 1842.

☞ Mr Clark, we trust, will give us something more upon the use of the roller on light lands. In the mean time we will merely say that the objection raised by Mr Dodge to Mr C.'s inference, may perhaps be unfounded. That a slight compression of the surface of light sandy lands, will check both the rapid evaporation of moisture, and also that too free admission of air, which causes the manures buried in such soils, to become too soon expended, is allowed. From this we make the inference that rolling helps to *keep the moisture in*. But the object in stirring the soil when it is already getting to be too dry, is not, we believe, to aid in retaining what little moisture is already there in the top soil, but to render the soil a better absorbent of the dews and vapors of the atmosphere. A wet soil gives out moisture to the atmosphere—but a *very dry* one takes moisture from the atmosphere. Therefore, when the soil is moist and you fear that it may become dry, roll it and keep the moisture in. But if it is already too dry, keep stirring it, so that it may take moisture more freely.

There are instances in which the wheel tracks made by a single passage of the cart over a field that has recently been laid down, show two marked green stripes for years. This is the effect of compression and not of mere manure.—ED.

CORRECTION.—In Mr Clark's article in our paper of the 20th ult., page 332, we made the author say that the poverty of light lands is due to their *poverty*—(a very evident proposition, says the type-sticker.) It should have been, "is due to their *porosity*." No one, we presume, will suspect him who wrote with so much definiteness and good sense, of making such a sentence as we happened to print, and overloook in correcting "proof." The fault was ours.

SCOURS IN CALVES.

MR EDITOR—I noticed in your paper of the 13th April, a remedy for *Scours* in calves. A much more simple and sure one, I believe, is Epsom salts. When a calf is attacked, dissolve two large table spoons-full in warm water, and administer forthwith. Diminish the quantity of milk for one or two meals, and the object is accomplished. If the disease has made considerable progress before discovered, increase the quantity one third and give the second day. I have never known this to fail of curing, except when the calf was suffered to take milk too freely directly after taking the medicine. In this case, repeat it, and feed sparingly for one or two days. Respectfully, yours, &c.

OTIS BRIGHAM.

Westboro', 25th April, 1842.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, April 30, 1842.

Mr L. P. Grosvenor exhibited seedling Apples, called Company—handsome, and juicy for the season.

For the Committee,

B. V. FRENCH.

The favors of "B." and "A Farmer" shall have a place in our next.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending May 1.

May 1842.		6, A.M.	12, M.	6, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	25	45	50	46	E.
Tuesday,	26	42	45	44	E.
Wednesday,	27	42	64	49	W.
Thursday,	28	37	54	44	N. W.
Friday,	29	42	52	48	N. W.
Saturday,	30	45	59	56	N. W.
Sunday,	1	43	67	54	S.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, May 2, 1842.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 240 Beef Cattle, 15 pairs Working oxen, 30 Cows and Calves, 400 Sheep, and 1530 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.* A few choice cattle at $6 25. First quality, $5 75 a 6 00. Second quality, $5 50 a 5 75. Third quality, $4 75 a 5 25.

Working Oxen.—Sales 70, 85, 90, and $110.

Cows and Calves. Sales 18, 23, 25, 28, and $35.

Sheep.—Lots were sold from 2 25, to $4 50.

Swine.—Lots to peddle from 3 1-4 to 4 for sows, and 4 1-4 to 5 for barrows. Lot to close, 3 and 3 1-2 Large Hogs 3 and 4. At retail, from 4 to 6.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 75 to 3 00 per bushel. Red Top, 40 to 45 cents. Clover—Northern, 11 to 12c.—Southern, 10 a 11 c. Flax Seed, $1 50 to 1 85 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 50 a 4 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. Corn. Yellow flat 66 a 67; round do, 68 a 70c per bushel; white 60 a 62c do do. Oats, Delaware and North River, 48 a 50.

Corn—Northern, bushel 70 to 71—do. Round Yellow 68 a 69—do. Southern Flat Yellow 66 a 67—White do. 60 a 62—Barley — a — —Rye, Northern, — a — —do. Southern, 63 a 65—Oats, Southern, 45 a 48—Northern do. 48 to 50—Beans, per bushel 75 a 1 50.

FLOUR. Sales of Genesee have been made at $6 31 a 6 37; 500 bbls Baltimore City Mills for export at $5 87, 4 mos; 400 bbls Georgetown.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $6 12 a 6 25—do. wharf, $5 87 a — do. free of garlic, $6 12 a — —Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $6 12 a — —Fredericksburg, lowl'd 4 mos. $6 00 a — —Alexandria, wharf mountain,—$5 87 a — —Georgetown, $6 12 a 6 25—Richmond Canal, $6 12 a 6 25—do. City, $7 00—Petersburgh, City Mills, $6 00 a 6 12—do. Country $6 00 a — —Genesee, common, cash, $6 31 a 6 37 — do fancy brands $6 50 a — — Ohio, via Canal, $6 25 a — —Indian Meal in bbls., $3 00 a 3 25.

PROVISIONS. Sales consist of Mess Beef, $9 a 9 1-4, and small lots $9 1-2 per bbl, 10 a 1200 do. prime do., $4 50 a 5 per bbl; 50 bbls. 500 kegs Western Lard, 5 1-4 a 5 3-4c, and 6c per lb; 500 do. do. by auction, 5 1-2 a 5 3 4c, 4 mos; 100 bbls Mess Beef, ordinary $5 75 a 5 87 1-2 per bbl; 20 do. do. Prime, $3 75 per bbl, cash; 10 bbls clear Pork, $10 25 per bbl, cash; 60 bbls clear Pork 9 1-2 a 9 1-4 per bbl; 40 bbls Western Lard, 4 3-4c per lb.

Beef—Mess, 4 1-0 new bbl. $9 00 a 9 50—Navy—$8 00 a — —No 1, $7 25 a 7 50—do Prime $4 50 a 5 00—Pork—Extra clear, 4 mo. bbl. $12 a — —do Clear $11 a — —do Mess $8 25 a 8 50—do Prime $6 25 a 6 50—do Mess from other States 8 25 a 8 50.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 8 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 8 cts. per pound, 32 per ct. ad. val. and 4 cts pe pound.

Sales of pulled and fleece continue to be made in moderate quantities, at present quotations.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 47 a 50 c.—American full blood do 43 a 45—Do 3-4 do 38 a 40—Do. 1-2 do 33 a 35 -1-4 and common do 29 a 30 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25—Do. unwashed, 10 a 13—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean — Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 40—No. 1 do. do. 34 a 36—No. 2 do do do 24 a 26—No. 3 do do do 15 a 20.

HOPS. Sales of 25 bales have been made at 11 a 11 1-2c, and some small lots have been taken for export.

1st sort Mass. 1841 per lb 11 a 11 1-2.

HAY, per ton, $18 to 22—Eastern Screwed $13 to 18

CHEESE—Shipping and 1 meal, 4 to 6c—New 5 to 8.

EGGS. 12 a 16.

DAHLIA POLES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO., offer for sale 1000 superior Dahlia Poles, with the bark pealed off, in bundles of 100, or by the dozen. Boston, May 3, 1842.

DAHLIAS.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, No. 52 North Market street, a large assortment of Double Dahlias of the finest varieties. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

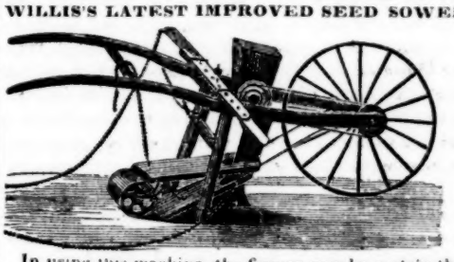
Boston, May 3, 1842.

HERBACIOUS PLANTS.

The present time, is the most suitable for removing Perennial plants. The subscribers will furnish 20 fine species for $5, packed in moss, in such a manner that they can be transported to any distance with safety.

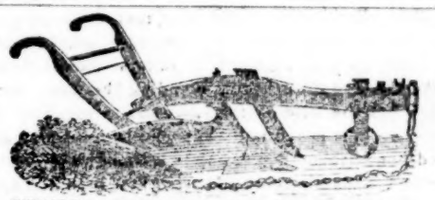
April 27. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED SEED SOWER.



In using this machine, the farmer may be certain that his seed is put into the ground, and at the same time in the best possible manner. There has been a great difficulty in machines for sowing garden seeds; they are very apt to clog up, and the farmer might go over an acre of land and not sow a single seed; but not so with this; it is so constructed that it cannot possibly clog. In using this sower, the farmer can save one half of his seed, and do the work at less than one quarter the expense of the common way of sowing, and have it done in a much better manner; it opens the furrow, drops the seed, covers it over and rolls them down. It will sow any kind of Garden Seeds; say Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, Turnips, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Onions, &c For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

April 20



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has be a very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard or rocky* BEGIN WITH Mr. Howard's."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twenty-seven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twenty-nine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

April 20

PEAR AND PLUM STOCKS.

For sale by SAMUEL POND, Cambridgeport. Also, Asparagus roots. April 20.

FRUIT, ORNAMENTAL TREES, &c.

NURSERY OF WILLIAM KENRICK,

Of *Peach, Pear, Plum and Cherry Trees*, a collection unrivalled in any former year, for extensive numbers of fine trees, of new and finest kinds. Large additions of new, valuable, or beautiful, are just received from Europe.

Gooseberries of first quality, Apples, Quinces, Grape Vines, Raspberries, Currents, Strawberries, &c. The new abridged and descriptive Catalogue for 1842, will be sent to all who apply.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Honeysuckles, &c. Splendid varieties of double yellow Harrison and other Roses—of Tree Pæonies, of Herbaceous Pæonies, and other flowering Plants—of double Dahlias, &c., Rhubarb of first rate newest kinds, Cockspur, Thorns, &c.

All orders addressed to the subscriber, will be promptly attended to, and Trees when so ordered, will be securely packed in mats and moss for safe transport to all distant places by land or sea, and delivered in the city free of charge, for transportation by the wagon which is sent thither daily, or orders may be left at the stand, at No. 44 Congress street, Boston. WILLIAM KENRICK

Nonantum Hill, Newton.

March 9. eptt2thJune

GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have received their full supply of Garden and Field Seeds, which they warrant to be pure and fresh, as follows:

Early Cedo Nulli Peas.	Early Horn do.
" Warwick do.	Mangel Wurtzel Beet.
" Dwarf do.	Sugar do.
" Washington do.	Long Red do.
" Frame do.	Early Turnip do.
Blue Imperial do.	Ruta Baga.
Marrowfat. &c.	Turnips in great variety.
White Altringham Carrot	Early and Late Beans of
Long Orange do.	sorts.

SEED BARLEY, AND OATS.

For sale at No. 52 North Market st., a prime lot of Seed Barley. Also English Oats. J. BRECK & CO.

Boston, April 6.

APPLE STOCKS.

The subscribers offer for sale 10,000 fine Apple Stocks two years old.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. No. 51 North Market st. Boston. April 6.

FRUIT TREES.

A prime lot of large size Apple, Pear, and Plum trees, for sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

March 30 1842.

GRASS SEEDS.

Northern and Southern Clover Seed—White Dutch do.—Lucerne—Herds Grass—Red Top—Orchard Grass—Fowl Meadow Grass—Oat Grass, &c. Millet, Rape, Canary and Hemp Seed. Every variety of seed for Agricultural or Horticultural purposes may be obtained at the Agricultural Establishment, No 52 North Market street, Boston.

March 9.

FRUIT TREES.

For sale at the Pomological Garden, Salem, Mass., a choice collection of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, and Peach Trees. Also, a great variety of Scions cut from fruit bearing Trees. Apply by mail to the Superintendant.

ROBERT MANNING.

Salem, April 6, 1842. 3w

MUCK MANUAL.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., The Muck Manual for Farmers. By Dr S. L. Dana; price $1.

Boston, April 13.

CAMBRIDGEPORT NURSERY.

SAMUEL POND, Nurseryman, Columbia street, Cambridgeport, Mass. Has for sale a choice assortment of FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ROOTS, and VINES, among them are the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, Grapevines, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Pear stocks, Apple do, Plum do., Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, &c. Trees of an extra size always on hand. March 23.

APPLE SCIONS.

The subscriber can supply very large and thrifty scions of the following kinds, Baldwin, Greening, River, Porter, Nonesuch, Pearmain, Sweetings, &c. &c. Also, a few of the choice kinds of *Pears* and *Plums*. Orders left at J. BRECK & Co., or at the counting room of the subscriber, 85 Washington st., Boston, or sent by mail, to Brighton, will be promptly attended to. JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

April 6.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE POSITION OF THE WIFE.

There is something enigmatical in the relative position of the wife, and yet the lines of office and duty are distinctly drawn in nature. It perhaps, may be said with truth, that she is the equal of her husband in nothing. In all things, she is either his superior or inferior. In physical strength, inferior; in symmetry and beauty, superior. In intellect, she has more imagination, vivacity, and brilliancy; less power of reasoning and acuteness in argument. In moral sensibility she is greatly the superior; in power of persuasion, if not argument, she holds a controling influence. She can most readily find the way to the heart and easily subdues it. But when she leaves the moral and gentle means of exercising control, and assumes to command, she must always expect to find a master. By courtesy, every thing she asks will be granted, her wants will be anticipated. But when she assumes to be a man, or to take the place of a man, she transcends her sphere, and resembles a star thrown from its orbit, its laws of motion subverted, and its position doubtful. Let her, in the retired position assigned her by the Gospel, be satisfied with her legitimate and proper influence, and she may appear the superior in everything praiseworthy, without exciting jealousy, and without dispute.

"The man is the head of the woman," and she is required to be "in subjection to her husband," and yet she rules him. "Submission" is unquestionably her duty, where he chooses to command, and he has power to enforce it. Yet from her very weakness, from her purity and tenderness, from her great freedom from the causes of irritation, he learns to respect her decisions in morals and religion, and his conscience comes in aid of the influence she seeks to exert over him. He rules as her natural lord; she influences him as an angel of light and love. He may, in the pride of his heart, hate the Gospel, and despise the cause of the poor, but he will go to church with *her*, and freely put his hand in his pocket to supply her charities.

She is the weaker vessel, and yet she is strongest. He may rage in giant strength, against the objects of his hatred, and yet let her interpose, and she holds his arm nerveless, like the arm of a child. While she is gentle, kind, affectionate, devoted, true, the mother of his children and their guardian angel, she holds him by a silken cord, which is stronger than a cable, stronger than the chains of the slave, because it entwines his heart, it binds the affections, which are the seat and motive power of the will. While, therefore, in the pride of his power, he opposes force by force, toward *her* he is all kindness and condescention. But let her assume the tone of a dictator, and of masculine command; let her prate of "woman's rights," and write a code of laws to define them anywhere but in the heart, the common law of the soul, and she appears shorn of her locks, which are "her ornaments;" she abjures her womanhood, she has cut out her breast to rest the javelin there, she affects the man, and must *contend* with men.

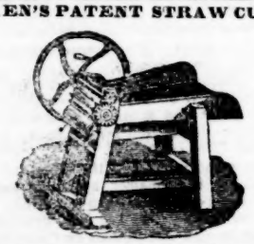
No—the proper sphere of woman is *home*. Her great office in the social system is to make that home a happy one to her husband, that his affections may centre there—that he may have no temptations to wander, and may always hasten to return to it. Let her train her children so that they may be the pride of their father, so that he may love to own them, and be not ashamed to show them as the jewels of his country. Let her always stand ready to receive him with complacency after his conflicts with the world, when his brow is knit with care, when his heart has been rudely convulsed by contact with treachery, dishonesty, or abuse, and his passions are striving for mastery; then from her still and quiet retreat, from her communion with the innocent spirits of her nursery, from her closet of prayer, which opens to heaven, let her meet him like a ministering angel, and he will lie at her feet like a tamed lion; he will imbibe from her something of her own spirit, and his spirit will be chastened under such a ministry.

Here lies the great strength of the wife: here is her high, honorable and honored sphere of action—where men are made, moulded, controlled—not where they contend, and cherish the angry passions. Does she seek for honor? It lies in the honor she renders to her husband, "calling him lord;" in her children, educated, and led to paths of usefulness and heaven; in the domestic arrangements, the admiration of all. Does she seek for happiness? Where can she find it but in a peaceful home? The wife was appointed to make a *home* for man, to form a centre for his affections, and bind them there; to act constantly as oil upon the troubled waters of life.

I lately saw a scene for a painter, exemplifying most clearly the position of the wife. Two men had become violently enraged, and sought each other with deadly weapons. I trembled for the issue. But as they came near, their arms fell powerless, and their voices of anger softened. I pressed through the crowu, and saw a female figure, like the presence-angel, standing between them. She was the wife of the one and the sister of the other. She spake not—but she had power. She led her husband home, and in the morning he went with a brother's heart and sought a reconciliaton. —*The Patriarch.*

The man whose word can always be depended on, is always sure to be honored.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, &c

The Proprietors of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store No. 51 and 52 North Market street, would inform their customers and the public generally that they have on hand the most extensive assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Tools to be found in the United States. Part of which are the following:

1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs.	100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels.
300 Common do. do.	150 " Common do.
200 Cultivators.	100 " Spades.
100 Greene's Straw Cutters.	500 " Grass Scythes.
50 Willis' do. do.	300 " Patent Snaiths.
100 Common do. do.	200 " Common do.
100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers.	500 " Hay Rakes.
50 Common do do.	200 " Garden do.
200 Willis' Seed Sowers.	200 " Manure Forks.
50 " Vegetable Cutters	300 " Hay do.
50 Common do. do.	500 Pair Trace Chains.
200 Hand Corn Mills.	100 " Truck do.
200 Grain Cradles.	100 Draft do.
100 Ox Yokes.	500 Tie up do.
1500 Doz. Scythe Stones.	50 doz. Halter do.
3000 " Austin's Rifles.	1000 yards Fence do.
	25 Grind Stones on rollers.

March 17.

SEEDS FOR HOT BEDS.

The subscribers offer for sale a great variety of Vegetable Seeds desirable for the Hot bed, as follows,

Nonpariel Cabbage.	Early Cauliflower.
Early Hope do.	" Broccoli, of sorts.
Early Synot's Cucumber.	Celery, superior sorts.
Fine Long Green do.	Sweet Marjorum.
Egg Plant.	

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. March 9.

FLOWER SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, offer for sale their usual variety of Flower Seeds, comprising all that are desirable for cultivation.

Boston, March 9th, 1842.

FOR SALE,

A few pairs of Mackay and Berkshire PIGS, from 2 to 4 months old. E. PHINNEY.

Lexington, Feb. 9.

TYE UP CHAINS.

Just received by 500 Chains for tyeing up Cattle.

These chains, introduced by E. H. DERBY, Esq. of Salem, and Col. JACQUES, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found to be the safest and most convenient mode of fastening cows and oxen to the stanchion.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

FENCE CHAINS.

Just received from England, 10,000 feet Chains, suitable for Fences or other purposes. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

SITUATION WANTED

AS GARDNER—by one that has served a regular apprenticeship in Europe, and has had seven years' experience in this country. The best of reference given. Address J. D. at this office. March 9.

SUN DIALS.

Just received a few of Sheldon & Moore's, Sun Dials, a very neat and useful article for the purpose of giving the time of day in the garden or field. Price 75 cents. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No 51 and 52 North Market St.

Sept 1.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.